

**Brooklyn City Council**  
**Tuesday, October 9, 2018 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

President Van Kirk welcomed everyone to the Public Hearing for the Cuyahoga County Competitive Supplemental Grant Program. Grants up to \$50,000 available to all Cuyahoga County communities, and Community Development Corps. in the County, meeting certain criteria. Activities meeting criteria are eligible, but don't need to meet low/moderate or slum/blight objectives (allowing more flexibility). The city is currently discussing various projects in which to apply. He asked members of the audience, not affiliated with the City of Brooklyn, to come to the podium with any suggestions for the administration for ways the funding should be allocated and granted by the county. There were no comments from the audience.

*Public Hearing concluded.*

**Roll Call**

PRESENT: Kevin Tanski, Barb Paulitzky, Ron Van Kirk, Meg Ryan Shockey, Andy Celcherts, Kathy Pucci.

ABSENT: Mary Balbier

Pledge of Allegiance.

Opening Prayer was offered by Pastor Folger of the Cleveland Baptist Church.

**Approval of Minutes** of September 24, 2018.

Councilwoman Pucci made some corrections to a few words.

MOTION by Pucci, second by Celcherts to approve, as amended. VOTE: To approve, as amended: Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. ***APPROVED, as amended***

President Van Kirk said the City's new BoardDocs page is up and running. The link is on the City's website under the City Council tab marked City Council Meetings. Agendas, legislation and all attachments will be available there. This program promises to be a benefit for the city. He thanked Mary-Jo Banish and Dawn Neal for their work in getting the program off the ground.

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

*Victor Ardito of 7439 Outlook Ave.* spoke about streets and bike lanes being added, suggesting licenses for 18 and older to ride bicycles on the street, which helps share the cost of street costs. Questioned patching done on So. Amber roadwork, using asphalt instead of concrete for the solid base.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:**

Finance Committee (Councilman Van Kirk): The Committee met at 6:30 and discussed: Ord. 2018-75, for adoption, amends the Job Retention and Creation Grant with Inogen (they wish to expand the grant, they're adding more jobs); Res. 2018-8, authorizes a contract with the Cuyahoga County General Health District for Health Services for 2019 and 2020 (cost of \$52,941 for 2019 and \$60,871 for 2020; the 2018 contract was \$46,016); Res. 2018-9, requests the Fiscal Officer to advance taxes from proceeds of 2018 tax levies (we do this every year). Last mtg. we approved authorizing a P.O. for a one-armed garbage truck to be paid for next year; Dir. Verba was contacted by the seller with a vehicle meeting our specs with \$14,000 additional equipment on it (at no additional cost to the city), done and sitting at a No. Royalton dealership, that the city can purchase this year, rather than wait for the build of the other one. He will look into it. The Council will be meeting and continue discussions on the 2019 budget end of this month and next.

Domestic Abuse Commission (Councilwoman Ryan Shockey): The Commission will meet tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the Fire Station community room. On Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> she will be talking to the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce about the Commission, with general information and how businesses and individuals can be supporting of their mission. Visit the Chamber's website, [brooklynohiochamber.org](http://brooklynohiochamber.org) for tickets and information. –The Comm. will collect used clothing and new toiletries in honor of Domestic Abuse Awareness Month in October. Boxes will be in the Police Station lobby for dropping off donations from Oct. 15 to Oct. 26. Goods will go to the City Mission and the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center.

Recreation Board (Councilman Tanski): The Recreation Bd. will meet Monday, Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> in the Rec Center mtg. room at 7 p.m.

Bd. of Zoning Appeals (Commissioner Kulcsar): The Board will meet Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the City Hall conference room to hear requests from: M.Christopher at 8914 Ansonia for a 2-ft. variance to minimum 3-ft. required for accessory structure to side yard setback and for a 1-ft. variance to minimum 3-ft. required for rear yard setback.

Planning Commission (Councilman Van Kirk): The Commission met Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> and approved requests from: Cleveland Baptist Church for freestanding sign at 4431 Tiedeman; from B. Peters of Red Architecture for conditional use for drive-thru in light industrial district at 10325 Cascade Crossing. The next meeting is Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room.

### **REPORTS OF COUNCIL:**

**Kevin Tanski:** The Fall Fest held Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> was a great success, with food, games and socializing. We hope to keep the tradition going every year. He hopes everyone had a good time. –Told Mayor Gallaher he's getting more calls about the dirt mounds still sitting on the Roadoan School property; asked for any update to get the school getting them removed. Mayor Gallagher asked if Dir. Kulcsar got in touch with Dr. Gleichauf (he said he has not yet); so she is waiting to get a response from the Superintendent to follow up with a meeting. She did pass on the complaints he received. She and Dir. Kulcsar will meet with him as a follow up. Councilman Tanski asked if their contract included that it be removed. Comm. Kulcsar said he couldn't speak to the contract, but will say it wasn't in approved drawings to remain after the projects were completed. The scope had changed (it was a larger plan than they ended up doing), and it ended up remaining. Councilman Tanski asked it be kept up with and inform him how it's going.

**Barb Paulitzky:** The Fall Fest was a huge success, perfect weather, and the children had a great time. Thanked all dedicated city and staff and volunteers who made it happen. –The fall Parent/Teacher conference is Oct. 11 from 3:30-5:30 and 6:30-9 in each classroom. –The School Bd. mtg. is Oct. 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the media room; attend if you have any questions on the school levy. –She attended Coffee with the Mayor. Several residents had issues with parking on Marquardt Park during soccer games. Chief Mielke assured he'll have more police presence during the games for cars blocking resident driveways. –Friday she attended Ohio Flags of Honor Memorial Ceremony in Middleburg Hts., which travels the country honoring deceased veterans. The Ohio division travels with 300 flags, with names of Ohio's men/women who gave their lives. 2018's last ceremony is at the Polish American Cultural Center on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. Encourages people to see it when the 2019 schedule begins.

**Meg Ryan Shockey:** The Fall Fest was wonderful and enjoyed by everyone. Thanked the staff, Mary-Jo, Jill and Service Dept. for making it happen. It reminds her why she chose to live in the community. –Voter registration for General Election ended today; tomorrow starts early voting. There are many important issues, take the time to vote on Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Andy Celcherts:** Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> is a Varsity Wrestling fundraiser at the Hooley House, Cascade Crossing (6-9 p.m., \$25/person, includes buffet, raffles, sideboards, etc). Tickets from Coach Smith at 216-485-8149 or Coach Mass at 216-548-3098. Monies raised goes to Brooklyn Booster account for student athletes for apparel and gear. –Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> beginning around 6:30 p.m. will be judging for Halloween House Decorating contest. –Wing Ding night at Bleachers in Parma on Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> for Post Prom, \$25/person. Questions or tickets contact Kelli Supek. –Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 p.m. is a Family Fall Fest at Cleveland Baptist Church on Tiedeman, with food, drinks, games, hayrides, etc., all free.

**Kathy Pucci:** Thanked Pastor Folger for his opening prayer, and Mr. Ardito for his comments. –Attended both financial mtgs. hosted by the schools; thanked Brooklyn Acres for hosting theirs, as their 7 p.m. time helped with the later time for people. –Issue 3 is the school issue. Get all the information needed to make an informed decision. –Voter registration closes at 9 p.m. (can be done on-line or turn in paper document to the Library before 9 p.m.) As mentioned, early voting starts tomorrow, by mail or in person at Bd. of Elections. –Safe Routes to School had Family Fun Walk/5K on Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>. It was good weather and a good event. Thanked all volunteers, especially Suzy Marquis; and special thanks to student volunteers, who are

wonderful, and help every year. –The schools were notified today they received a \$7,000 non-infrastructure grant from ODOT to continue funding these events through Safe Routes to School. Asked Mayor Gallagher if we've heard anything on the infrastructure grant the city submitted; Mayor Gallagher said she did not. –Thanked all city workers and volunteers who contributed to Fall Fest; it was good weather and a fun event. People appreciate having community events that bring people together. –Asked Comm. Kulcsar to clarify, asking if the city's position that mounds of dirt relating to the demolition of the schools should be removed; can we require it, is it a tough question? Comm. Kulcsar said it is, if it was easy it would be gone already. He said we could press the issue, and cite them, but we're trying to be good partners with the school and come to a solution with them. She agreed it's the appropriate path. There are residents concerned, and we're addressing that there isn't anything hazardous; but we never got a definitive that they should be removed. –It's Fire Prevention Week, theme is Look, Listen, Learn, Be aware fire could happen anywhere. Check smoke and CO detectors, change batteries if required, and check dates on newer model ~~batteries~~ detectors.

**Ron Van Kirk:** Traveled last week to nation's capital for an interesting time, taking his senior students. They saw a lot and toured a lot; the memorials speak to him the most, especially the Vietnam Memorial. Encourage people to visit. –Echoed sentiments on the Fall Fest. His son didn't want to leave. The Mayor and her staff are to be commended on a wonderful event, and he looks forward to it in years to come. –Told Mr. Ardito he will find an answer for him through the city and get back to him. –Spoke about Issue 1 on the ballot, "To reduce penalties for crimes of obtaining possessing, and using illegal drugs." It's a proposed Constitutional Amendment, as an initiative petition. He reviewed all parts of it, including quotes from Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, who is against it, and mentioned others opposing it. He encouraged residents to be informed on Issue 1.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**Mayor Katie Gallagher:** As mentioned, BoardDocs is live as of today. People can see what Council receives and to scroll through the Agenda and open the documents, and follow in the audience. The School Bd. uses the same program, so it could be easy to pick up. –Fall Festival was a great day, and thank yous were mentioned. She added thanks to Giant Eagle for free drinks to residents, Marc's for huge discounts on pumpkins, Polaris Career Center for bringing free pastries (12 trays of cookies), and Home Depot for the kids' table (a big hit). –A couple events going on: Fire Open House is Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with tours, CPR demos, safety tips, mobile safety house and refreshments. Brooklyn Pointe will have a grand opening Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> the Service Dept. will be open (Saturday) from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., for drop off of items (cans of paint, pesticides, gasoline, and other items). Our city survey mentioned people wanted Saturday hours in the Service Dept., and we did a shred day in the spring, and the Service. Dept. with over 75 residents dropping off items. –Updating on the Master Plan process. She picked the Steering Committee. 24 people applied, and she used the Planning Commission's recommendations for choosing, and read the list of 16 people to convene the end of this month. There are some things outside entities look for, with being involved in Brooklyn: the Library, looking to expand, and the Metroparks (trails and biking throughout Brooklyn and their Greenways Plan), and Mr. Coyne from the Cuy. County Planning Comm. will be stakeholders coming to a meeting to present to the Steering Comm. with ways to use their objectives and build it in to the Master Plan.

#### **DIRECTORS REPORTS:**

Recreation Mgr. McGinty: The Rec. Dept., in cooperation with the Brooklyn Police and Fire Depts., will present Frightening Friday Night Hallow-Scream Skate, Fri., Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> during open skate from 8-9:15 p.m. Free admission to Brooklyn residents with ID wearing a costume and donating a Thanksgiving related canned good for the City's Thanksgiving baskets. All other skaters not in costume are regular admission rates. Skate rentals apply for all.

Finance Dir. Raguz: The first budget work session with City Council for the Capital Budget will be Oct. 29 at 6 p.m. Asked Council to let him know to include anything on the agenda that hasn't been talked about.

**LEGISLATION:**

**Ord. #2018-74** (3rd Reading/Adoption): Amending Section 539.21 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Brooklyn to eliminate outright prohibition of begging in parks and playgrounds. This brings our Code in line with not only Supreme Court rulings, but some Circuit Court rulings being handed down throughout the country. Councilwoman Pucci asked Dir. Butler to expand on it, and other remedies at our disposal on anything that would cause a disturbance. Dir. Butler explained that asking for money, panhandling, begging, asking for donations for non-profit causes are protected free speech under the First Amendment. He expanded on acceptable restrictions in our Code, allowing enforcement on various infringements. He added our police indicated there hasn't been historically any panhandling in the parks and playgrounds; so this repeal shouldn't result in a rash of such cases, though if it did, there are other Code sections that could be used to prevent it. Pres. Van Kirk noted this Ordinance was last amended in 1970, almost 50 years ago. Councilwoman Pucci noted this had not banned panhandlers citywide, but limited to parks/playgrounds for a reason; but it does have to be repealed as we've been put on notice by the ACLU, and not worth the cost of fighting it. MOTION by Van Kirk, second by Celcherts to adopt. VOTE: Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. **ADOPTED**

**Ord. #2018-75** (3rd Reading/Adoption): Authorizing an Amended Job Retention and Creation Grant Agreement with Inogen, Inc. MOTION by Van Kirk, second by Ryan Shockey to adopt. VOTE: Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. **ADOPTED**

**Res. #2018-8** (1st Reading): Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the Cuyahoga County General Health District for Health Services for the years 2019 and 2020. **FIRST READING**

**Res. #2018-9** (1st Reading): Requesting the County Fiscal Officer to advance taxes from the proceeds of the 2018 Tax Levies pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code Section 321.34. **FIRST READING**

Councilman Tanski read a letter to the School Bd. and City Council from five residents who live on Rodoan and back Hurricane Alley, requesting the removal of the mounds of dirt, citing they are unsightly and dangerous, and there for over three years. He expressed his agreement to their complaint (he's gone back to see it), that the field should be returned to how it was, with the dirt and weeds and debris removed. There was further discussion, and Mayor Gallagher clarified that the city has the authority to have them remove it immediately; however, we do have a partnership with the school, and we'd like to work with them, with their financial constraints right now. She will reach out to Dr. Gleichauf again tomorrow.

There being no further business, MOTION by Pucci, second by Celcherts to adjourn. VOTE: Yes: Tanski, Paulitzky, Van Kirk, Ryan Shockey, Celcherts, Pucci. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

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Mary-Jo Banish  
Clerk of Council

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Ron Van Kirk  
President of Council